## **SD Department of Agriculture**

## **INVASIVE SPECIES WATCH LIST**

## SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## Taeniatherum canput-medusae Medusahead rye

Blooms May to June.

Grows six to 18 inches tall.

Branching weak stems.

Spiked inflorescences

The seed head a layered look. Awns dry and twist, in all directions



**Out-competes other grasses** 

Rich in silica and unpalatable in late spring

Invaded land becomes almost worthless, for native animals or livestock.

Stiff awns and hard florets can injure eyes and mouths of grazing animals.

Changes the moisture dynamics of the soil

Greatly reduces seed germination of other species

Creates fuel for wildfires.



FLOWER
John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy,
Bugwood.org



PLANT
Steve Dewey, Utah State University,
Bugwood.org



Infestation

John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy, Bugwood.org For Additional Photos Control/click

http://www.forestryimages.org/browse/ subthumb.cfm?sub=6507

IF YOU FIND THIS PLANT PLEASE REPORT IT TO YOU LOCAL COUNTY WEED AND PEST SUPERVISOR OR THE SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (605) 773-3796 OR ONLINE AT www.eddmaps.org/mrwc.